

### **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 2 through 13.

1. (Original) Method for operating a drafting arrangement (1) for drafting a fibre composite (2), the drafting arrangement (1) containing a front pair of rollers (3) and a rear pair of rollers (4) having a nip line (5), and a fibre composite end (6) being present for starting up the drafting arrangement (1), characterized in that, before the drafting arrangement (1) is put into operation, the fibre composite end (6) is brought to a predetermined distance from the nip line (5) of the rear pair of rollers (4), this distance preferably amounts to up to 6 mm, this distance preferably amounts to 0.1 mm to 5 mm, this distance particularly preferably amounts to 3 mm or 4 mm, and the bringing to a distance is preferably carried out by the fibre composite end (6) being cut to length.

Claims 2 – 13 (Cancelled)